

**GEDLING
PLAN
2023-2027**

**Examples of achievements, corporate
activities and projects during
Quarter 2 - 2024/25**

Skills and Employment

Recruitment/Jobs Fair - The council's Economic Growth and Regeneration service, in collaboration with Arnold Department for Work and Pensions, organised an Autumn Jobs Fair at the Civic Centre in September 2024. There were 238 attendees, and 30 exhibitors raising awareness of a wide range of vacancies and opportunities.

START in South Nottinghamshire Platform - The START online portal, which provides a sustainable resource to help local people find employment, training and educational opportunities became live. Local businesses and training providers are being encouraged to list vacancies, creating a vital link between employers and job seekers within South Nottinghamshire.

Business

Retail Workshops Launch – The council hosted a series of free retail workshops in September 2024 to support local businesses to boost their sales. Twenty-four businesses attended the first three face-to-face workshops. The bespoke workshops have been created from identified skills gaps, issues and needs from the diagnostic process through the borough.

Town and Local Centres

Ambition Arnold Consultation – The Ambition Arnold public consultation took place from 8th of July 2024 until the 18th of August 2024 encouraging residents, local businesses and other key stakeholders to share their views and ideas on several proposals to improve the town centre. The campaign was promoted across multiple channels, including social media, email newsletters and in the council's magazine. The vision addresses key challenges and lays out the groundwork for securing external funding after two unsuccessful attempts to bid for Central Government Levelling Up funding for the area.

Carlton Long Term Plan for Towns - In March 2024, the government announced a further tranche of Long-Term Plan for Town (LTPFT) funding. Carlton was selected as part of this tranche to receive £20m of endowment style funding over a 10-year period. Within the quarter, Mutual Ventures have been appointed to provide consultancy to the programme. Sir John Peace has been appointed as the Independent Chair to lead the newly established Greater Carlton Town Board. The inaugural meeting of the Board took place in July.

Poverty and the Vulnerable

Temporary Accommodation - A further 2-bedroom house has been acquired in the Arnold area during Q2 with the aim of securing a further 5 houses within the Borough during Q3. These acquisitions will further aid the Council's commitment in attempting to reduce the need of using expensive and unsuitable bed and breakfast style accommodation in the future.

Children and Young People

Skate Nottingham Summer Engagement Programme - The Council commissioned Skate Nottingham to deliver a summer programme activating 4 Gedling skateparks and engaging large numbers of new and returning local participants with skateboarding & creative activities. Families & young people attended from both within Gedling (65%) and travelled to Gedling (35%) for the events, with an average participant age of 13 years old. Skate Nottingham delivered sessions at

Standhill King George V Park, Arnot Hill Park, Calverton Skate Park and Burton Road Jubilee Park attracting 122 people across all sessions.

Nottinghamshire Day - The Council commissioned Positively Empowered Kids to deliver an event for Nottinghamshire Day in Arnold Town Centre outside the AMP. The event provided free activities for families at the end of the school holidays with craft, play and circus skills sessions, as well as information and advice for families from local partners.

Equality, Diversity and Social Inclusion

Take a Seat Initiative - Gedling Borough Council's five leisure centres are supporting the 'Take a Seat' initiative by offering a chance for older people and people with a disability or chronic illness to enter any of its Leisure Centres and should they need to rest to sit down and receive a warm welcome without using the facilities.

Health and Wellbeing

Charity Swim for 50th Anniversary of Gedling Borough Council - staff and community members from Calverton Leisure Centre took part in the Swim 4 Fifty challenge during July, a continuous charity relay swim to raise money for the mayor's charity, Parkinson's UK. The challenge lasted 32 hours and the team smashed their target reaching 100km or 5556 lengths with just 15 seconds to spare. Over 75 people took part in the challenge and collectively raised over £1500 for charity.

Gedling Wellbeing Walks - The Get Going in Gedling Wellbeing Walks continue to take place on a weekly basis with one walk taking place around the Mapperley area and the second one taking place at Gedling Country Park. Over the past 3 months 21 walks have taken place with 229 attendances by 39 different walkers.

Big Green Book - Co-ordinated by the council and with support from local partners, work has started on the Gedling version of the Big Green Book. This is a directory of nature-based activities and assets within the Gedling area. The book will be available to support Green social prescribing across the Borough, but to also encourage residents to utilise outdoor spaces and become more physically active.

All time highest DNA membership figures – Gedling's leisure centres ended Q2 with the highest ever number of DNA Health and fitness members (4633) and swim lesson members (4313) they've ever had. This growth in members means that more residents are being active and making positive steps to improving their health and wellbeing and more children will be safe in and around water.

Cleanliness, Environment and Climate Change

Green Flag Awards – The council have successfully secured all four parks' Green Flag Award entries for a further year. Certificates and flags are now displayed at each site. Additional grounds maintenance was carried out by PASC prior to the judging along with additional help from community group members.

Tree Planting and wildflower areas to tackle Climate Change - The 'Trees for Climate' grant funding from Nottinghamshire County Council was formally proposed for 1400 trees to be planted on Digby Park along with the creation and establishment of 0.5-hectare wildflower area. Once the funding agreement has been signed and completed the tree planting and wildflower meadow creation is due to take place Autumn 2024. The total grant value is £34k.

Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) - The Climate Change Officer completed and submitted the Council's environmental impact through global benchmarking, CDP. Collaboration with CDP and Midlands Net Zero Hub (MNZH) that invited Local Authorities in the Midlands to participate in this. The project aims to help Local Authority understand their progress and identify areas for improvement towards climate goals.

New electric car charging points - We converted four parking spaces at the Civic Centre in Arnot Hill Park into electric car charging points, equipped with fast chargers that have two outlets, each delivering 7kW of power. To use these charging points, you'll need to register through the BP Pulse app, as they're provided by BP Pulse. This move is part of the council's promise to be net zero carbon by 2030. We have already set up ten electric charging stations around the borough, and plan to add more, including at Gedling Country Park, over the next year.

Pride of Place

Peace in the Park - The Communities team delivered the 'Peace in the Park' event at Gedling Country Park in September to coincide with the International Day of Peace. The event aimed to promote personal wellbeing with opportunities for mindfulness and guided walks with Positively Empowered Kids and the Art of Nature Wellbeing. Environmental sustainability was also a focus with planting and forest school activities alongside recycled craft sessions with Gedling Play Forum.

UK SPF Events, Culture and Heritage - UK SPF funding has enabled the Council to provide a funding contribution to heritage and cultural projects in a number of locations around the borough. These have included financial support for Netherfield Christmas Lights Switch On (costs towards road closure and liaison with Chevron Traffic Management to enable the safe delivery of the event), Calverton Folk Museum (a contribution towards additional signage and promotion material and an open day to raise their profile), Daybrook Bowls Club (support for costs associated with their centenary celebration event), City Arts (delivery of Carlton Arts Week) and Calverton Parish Council (provision of information signage for community woodland project).

Community Protection

CCTV Installed at St Mary's Recreation Ground - A new CCTV camera has been installed on St Mary's Recreation Ground, to help tackle anti-social behaviour and reduce crime. The camera provides high-quality images to the council's CCTV control room and will be used to assist the police with investigations, as well as aiding the council's Community Safety Team and Neighbourhood Wardens in tackling anti-social behaviour. Funding for the camera, which cost £14,000, was provided by the Government's Shared Prosperity Funding. Since the recent installation of the camera, it has been used on several occasions to detect crime and assist the police with investigations including anti-social behaviour, violent crime and fly-tipping incidents.

Housing

Empty Homes - The Empty Homes Officer has over the course of Q2 assisted homeowners to return 20 properties to use that have been empty 2 years or longer. This includes 3 long term empty properties that had been unoccupied for between 15 and 26 years.

New Selective Licensing Scheme approved - Following public consultation a new Selective Licensing scheme was approved by Cabinet on 5th September to come into force on 5th January 2025 for up to 5 years. New scheme to apply to all private rented homes in the Netherfield ward.

Customer Engagement

Customer Experience Programme - work has commenced on the Council's Customer Experience Programme, designed to make service delivery more responsive and reliable for customers and to support efficiencies in delivery. Alongside the programme, the management re-structure has completed with a new Assistant Director for Customer Engagement now in place, working effectively with teams.

Innovation and Improvement

Procurement activity is underway for a new Waste Management System, a new Customer Relationship Management System and a new Council website that will replace some of the processes that are used today with more efficient ways of working, enabling the Council to place it's 'people effort' on the things that matter most to local residents and businesses.

Governance and Compliance

Programme Boards - Programme Boards have been established to support new ways of working, and this year we are implementing a new approach to annual planning that integrates financial and performance activity through a single Budget and Performance Board chaired by the Council's Chief Finance Officer.